

Citizen Comments/Suggestions

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

I want a diverse and vibrant range of businesses and services in Redmond

- Help site businesses appropriately
- More gathering and eating and play opportunities in Overlake
- 159th redevelopment
- Integrate more with/and around new Downtown park
- More restaurants
- Subsidy/incentive for creating entertainment destinations in downtown (e.g. permit fees, tax incentives)
- Permits in a box
- Eat/drink/music opportunities
- Eastside swimming facility that integrates a business opportunity/anchor
- Encourage ways to “notice” businesses more
- Ethiopian restaurant
- Restaurants diversity – encourage – identify as a “need” and support
- Strategy 2: Promote Redmond as a positive place to do business and enhance relationships between businesses and the City. With regard to proactive-economic-development activities, Purchasing Strategy 2 must be constrained by the following if it is likely to achieve the above priorities with any degree of success and satisfaction:
 - It's hard to determine where today's large or multi-national corporations reside, live, or owe loyalty! I believe they are only loyal to an economic concept called *Comparative Advantage*.
 - If Redmond has a *Comparative Advantage* in environment for Livability, Recreation, Community Amenities, Clusters of Like Talented/Minded People, R&D, etc., this will automatically attract corporations to the area and they will bring with them investment capital, people, and technology. I've always had the vision of Redmond's *Comparative Advantage* being as a *back door to the countryside* (i.e., Carnation Valley, Sammamish Trail, Redmond Ridge, Farrell McWhirter Park)
 - With regards to Economic Development, especially as proposed public/private coalitions, Redmond taxpayers must only invest in infrastructure and things that can't be easily moved! Redmond must always account for where and how these investments can be taxed over the long term. I don't want Redmond to lure corporations to the area with monetary bribes or privatization deals. Corporations will only be loyal to *Comparative Advantage* and that advantage should only belong to and be controlled by the Citizens of Redmond WA.
 - Redmond should establish a goal to purchase 25% of its needs for goods and services from local small businesses.

CLEAN & GREEN

I want to live, learn, work and play in a clean and green environment

- More opportunities for telecommuting
- Provide work from home options for city employees
- Hold more meetings via computer, “webinars”
- Determine the City of Redmond's current carbon footprint and measure progress as various programs are put into place

COMMUNITY BUILDING

I want a sense of community and connections with others

- Support for Second Story Repertory
- More staff time to get youth involved
- Centennial celebration
- Historical Society
- Historical Preservation
 - Save buildings (moving them if necessary)
- Involvement
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Do more in parks to involve citizens
- Human presence (front desk in City Hall)
- More than a 4 block parade (Derby Days Parade)
- More diverse floats in Derby Days
 - Music
- Art reflects different group located around the city
- Get seniors involved in community
- Use of Old Redmond School House Community Center
 - Historical Society involved in Community Center
- Get Schools, college students, etc. involved

INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH

I want a well-maintained city whose transportation and other infrastructure keeps pace with growth

- Make sure infrastructure works for everyone, including kids
- Pedestrian connection NE 80th St to Avondale
- Improve pedestrian connection Marymoor Way to Westside Park on 156th
- Conversion of Redway and Cleveland St is important to making downtown more navigable
- Streamline intersections (less drop lanes)
- Like downtown is real downtown not just big box
- Sewers in new annexation area on Rose Hill

SAFETY

I want to be safe where I live, work and play

- Trail safety for pedestrians & bikers
- Don't cut the safety budget fund it first
- The Missing Strategy: Police Culture
There is no apparent Purchasing Strategy regarding Redmond's Police Culture. With the arrival of the new Chief of Police, Redmond has a new opportunity to establish a fulfillment strategy with regard to Police Culture and Factors 1 and 3 of the Request for Offer. Concerns include:
 - Increasing Militarization of Local Police by Federal Justice Department Officials and Department of Homeland Security.
 - Protect Redmond citizens from outside bullies, criminals, illegal aliens, terrorists, gangs and graffiti versus conducting overzealous enforcement efforts directed against local citizens (i.e., video surveillance, red-light cameras, automated speeding tickets, arbitrary stops, etc.).
 - Redmond needs to add a strategy to address these concerns.

- The first concern was recently discussed in Testimony Apr 27, 2010 before Senate Judiciary Committee w/ Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, ~minutes 4:30 to 5:40. Source: www.cspanvideo.org/program/id/223176
 - The 287G Program provides for coordination with local government and police and should be utilized by the City of Redmond to obtain adequate support but also limit distortions in our Police Culture.
 - Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, J., U.S. Senator [D] Vermont, had this to say: "... *Police Officers have a tough enough job as it is ... but if they are seen as Us vs. Them with the Law Abiding Community [Redmond Citizens], then they don't get the support and the information they need.*" [See attached [SenLeahy.mp3](#) file.]
 - Ranking Committee Member Jeff Sessions, U.S. Senator [R] Alabama, provided similar remarks.
- The second concern includes the appearance of the police. The current Robo-Cop look is definitely menacing. The Dodge Charger vehicles should be replaced with friendlier looking but capable vehicles (I'd prefer to see SUV's with tailgates). Also, automated speeding cameras and red-light cameras come across as very easy, inexpensive, but unconnected ways to raise revenue from Redmond citizens and visitors via traffic fines. This approach will not advance Factor 3 - Positive Community Image or Factor 1 - Access and Connections.